NEW RULES OF THE ROAD

Study up or face $500 penalties

metroNEWS

WATSON LEFT WAITING

... AGAIN. FEW TORIES MAKE IT TO RESCHEDULED MEET

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SHAKE A TAILFIN

AQUAMERMAID SCHOOL READY TO MAKE A SPLASH IN OTTAWA

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The founder of Montreal's first mermaid school, Marielle Chartier Henault, at the LaSalle Aquadome. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Council debates tax hikes vs. cuts

2016 BUDGET

Committee split on how to tackle deficit

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

It's the $41-million question Ottawa city councillors are facing: Raise taxes or cut spending?

A city staff report that will go before the finance and economic development committee (FEDCO) on Tuesday cites a whopping $41-million deficit by the end of the year.

"Higher-than-seasonal norms of snowfall" are largely to blame for the $17.7-million public works shortfall in the report, but freezing pipes and an unexpected $9.88 million for wage arbitration are also factors in the overall deficit.

The councillors sitting on FEDCO — and Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, who chairs the committee — will grapple with the question of how to address the deficit on Tuesday.

Watson campaigned on a two per cent tax cap. Councillors Bob Monette and Allan Hubley, who both sit on the committee, are standing firm by that.

"Many of my residents have managed to live within the cost-of-living levels for years so I do not foresee the need to hike taxes significantly," said Hubley, who represents Kanata South.

At least three other councillors who don't sit on the committee — including Rick Chiarelli, Michael Qaqish and Jean Cloutier — agree with keeping taxes low.

River Coun. Riley Brockington said a rate hike should be a last resort. Every few years, city staff should comb through the accounts of a handful of departments, regardless of whether the city is carrying a deficit or a surplus, he said.

"I'm not positive yet that we've looked under every stone," he said.

Kitchissippi Coun. Jeff Leiper said the city should "seriously reconsider" the two per cent tax cap. Both he and Somerset Coun. Catherine McKenney say they want to see tax-increase comparisons, like how a three per cent hike would look next to a 2.5 per cent hike, for example.

"I'm concerned that we are cutting to the bone," Leiper said.

Capital Coun. David Chernushenko, who sits on FEDCO, said the city would need to both raise taxes and trim spending to seriously slash the deficit.

"The sooner the better," he said in an email, "or else the level of tax/rate increase and the severity of cuts will only get worse later in this term."

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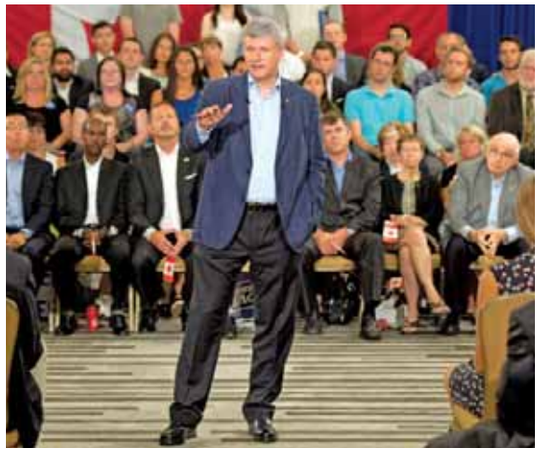
Google app to link Android smartwatches with iPhones. **Business**

Ottawa Tories skip mayor meeting for campaign rally

FEDERAL ELECTION

Only two CPC MPs attended pre-scheduled city briefing

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa



Conservative Leader Stephen Harper speaks to supporters during a campaign stop on Monday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dev Balkissoon and Pierre Poilievre met with Jim Watson, centre, at city hall to discuss local issues. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

It wasn't a complete no-show, but most local Tory candidates skipped a meeting with the mayor on Monday.

The briefing on municipal issues had been rescheduled to Monday morning after no Conservative candidates showed up at the original time last week.

But only two Conservative candidates — Dev Balkissoon (Ottawa South) and Pierre Poilievre (Carleton) — showed up to Mayor Jim Watson's office for the rescheduled meeting.

Seven others — Abdul Abdi, Royal Galipeau, Damian Konstantinakos, Pierre Lemieux, Walter Pamic, David Piccini and Andy Wang — were part of the backdrop for a Stephen Harper event a few blocks away.

"It's a very busy time on the campaign trail. I was happy to be able to make it here today," Poilievre said after the meeting when asked about his colleagues' absence.

"I think some of them were with the prime minister today, and understandably so."

Watson has invited candidates from all parties to meetings about matters important to the city, such as economic development, transit and affordable housing.

"Mayor Watson would have liked to have seen more candidates in attendance to learn about these important issues but he recognizes that time is short in a campaign and there is always competition for a candidate's time," Watson's spokesman Brook Simpson said in a statement following the briefing.

After no Conservative candidates showed up to the original briefing last week, Poilievre told Watson at the time that there was confusion about the date.

Poilievre's office suggested Monday as a rescheduled date, and the mayor's office agreed.

All local Green and Liberal candidates attended their briefings. The NDP's is scheduled for this Thursday.

Poilievre said he's not worried about the message that several of the party's candidates did not attend the meeting.

"Not at all. We have a strong track record of proven leadership for the people of the city of Ottawa," he said.

Poilievre did suggest that going door-to-door is the candidates' first priority.

"We're going to continue to work hard to provide proven leadership for a strong economy and a safe Canada," he said.

"That means talking to thousands of Ottawa residents on their doorsteps, and that is the priority of our candidates," he said.

Prior to Poilievre's remarks, Balkissoon thanked the mayor for having him, said he looks forward to more discussions and then left the mayor's office.

> **It's a very busy time on the campaign trail. I was happy to be able to make it here today.**
> Carleton MP Pierre Poilievre

FOREIGN POLICY

Too little progress in ISIL fight: Harper

With difficult economic data set to dog the Conservatives this week, expect party leader Stephen Harper to pivot to the other topic that's been a stalwart of the election campaign — security.

There's been little discussion so far about the Canadian military mission against Islamic militants in Iraq and Syria even though the broader issue of the crisis in the region was touched upon earlier in the campaign.

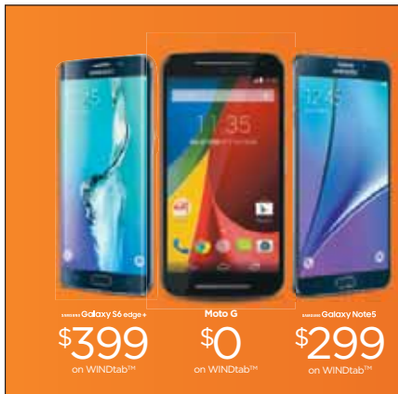
At an election rally in Ottawa on Monday, Harper was asked about the mission and he responded by saying he intends in the coming days to discuss the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). He also suggested the battle was not over.

It's been a year since the plight of thousands of Yazidis trapped on a mountaintop by ISIL fighters moved the U.S. to start pulling together countries for an air war designed to stop ISIL from taking over more land in Iraq.

Canada joined the fight in October 2014 for an initial six-month mission, which was expanded this March for up to a year. Canadian fighters are now also bombing ISIL positions in Syria.

Security has been a key election theme for the Conservatives. But the main theme of Harper's week is expected to remain the economy, with new data coming Tuesday likely to show Canada was in a technical recession in the first half of the year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Earlier this year, parents across the Greater Toronto Area pulled their children out of school to protest Ontario's new sex-ed curriculum. Inset: Ontario Education Minister Liz Sandals.
VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; INSET: GALIT RODAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberals release sex-ed ad before return to classes

CURRICULUM

Commercial shows boy viewing figure of two grooms

Ontario's Liberal government has released a new ad promoting an updated sex-education curriculum that will be in schools when classes resume next week.

The new curriculum has met with some opposition and controversy and has prompted protests by some parents, with some even threatening to pull their kids out of school this year.

The new ad shows young people in a variety of situations: a boy looking at a figure of two grooms atop a wedding cake, a girl examining herself in a full-length mirror, a boy using social media, a girl starting to lift up her shirt and appearing to take a selfie, and a boy leading a nervous-looking girl inside at a house party.

"Our kids have questions," a narrator says as the kids and teens in those scenarios raise their hands. "The sex-ed and health curriculum can help."

The ad stresses that this is the first update to the curriculum in 17 years.

> **Parents play an integral role in their child's education, and we're launching this campaign so that parents have factual information about what's in the updated curriculum.** Education Minister Liz Sandals

Some parents have raised concerns that some of the material is not age appropriate, with many parents pointing to sections on same-sex relationships, gender identity and masturbation.

Supporters of the curriculum say the opposition is largely founded on misinformation.

Education Minister Liz Sandals said the government's "top priority" is the health and safety of students.

"The Health and Physical Education curriculum was dangerously out of date, last updated in 1998, long before Facebook and Snapchat became part of everyday life," she said in a statement.

Under the changes, Grade 3 students will learn about same-sex relationships, kids in Grades 4 and up will learn more about the dangers of online bullying, while the perils of sexting will come in Grade 7.

Lessons about puberty will move from Grade 5 to Grade 4, while masturbation and "gender expression" are mentioned in the Grade 6 curriculum. Anal sex is part of the Grade 7 curriculum, in the context of choosing to abstain from or delay certain activities in order to avoid sexually transmitted infections.

Premier Kathleen Wynne met in April with a group of parents opposed to the curriculum and said they will just have to "agree to disagree" on it. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOO BAD

Premier Kathleen Wynne met in April with a group of parents opposed to the curriculum and said they will just have to "agree to disagree" on it.

A crowd gathers outside the Human Rights Monument along with symbols of the dead on Monday. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

A mile in 45 shoes

AWARENESS DAY

Rally honours stories of those lost last year to drug overdose

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

It took three overdoses before Jennifer Bigelow got the help she needed.

A drug addict of 31 years, Bigelow started sniffing lines at 16, then turned to sex work to feed her craving for crack and needles. She woke up from that third overdose to her best friend breathing life into her body.

Many Ottawans aren't so fortunate. Last year, 45 people died of a drug overdose in the city.

On Monday, a crowd gathered before the Human Rights Monument for Overdose Awareness Day. Shoes were scattered about as a reminder of those who died.

"I am not clean from addiction yet," Bigelow told the crowd. "I know that one day I will be free from drugs and hope to be doing work where I can help others travelling on their dark and dangerous journeys."

Ottawa paramedics responded to more than 2,600 calls for overdoses last year.

It's not only drug addicts who are at risk, noted Oasis Program director Rob Boyd.

"If you are on opiate-based pain medication, you are at risk of overdose," he said.

Naloxone, an overdose antidote that buys victims enough time to access hospital treatment, is currently restricted to advanced-care paramedics and a handful of public health centres. Boyd, along with other health professionals across the province, is lobbying to expand the availability of the drug to correctional facilities, methodone programs and addiction treatment centres.

The rally also called for a supervised injection site, which Mayor Jim Watson has opposed.

IN BRIEF

City seeks feedback on names for buildings, park
The city wants your thoughts on proposed names for an Orleans field house, the Cyrville Community Centre, and an east-end park in the works. The plan is to call the field house at Pierre Rocque Park on Joseph Drouin Avenue the Beauregard Bunker after Lise and Bernie Beauregard, supporters of the Orleans Amateur Fastball Association. The city wants to rename the Cyrville Community Centre after Patricia Clark, who served as executive director of the Capital Fair and was a member of several community organizations. A park to be built on Hepatica Way is slated to be called Henri Rocque Park. Rocque taught in Orleans-area schools before becoming mayor of Cumberland township. METRO

RECREATION

Mermaid class to be part of your world

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

There have been no confirmed sightings of mermaids on the banks of the Ottawa River, but that could change this week.

Marielle Hénault, founder of Aquamermaid, is bringing her popular mermaid swim classes to Ottawa starting Sept. 13.

Hénault said families were travelling from Ottawa to Montreal just to try the new sport, so it made sense to open here. Aquamermaid lessons are already taught in Toronto and Montreal.

"For kids, it's more about learning how to swim and making dreams come true. For adults, it's more about fitness targeting your core muscles," said Hénault.

Hénault first tried on a fin during a modelling session.

"I loved it. It's an amazing workout, and people were stopping by, laughing and taking pictures. People love mermaids, and I wanted to share that," she said.

Tails are generally made of two parts: a brightly coloured swimsuit that covers the legs and a stiffer, silicone "monotail" that attaches to feet for swimming.

The fin was banned in the city of Edmonton because of safety concerns, but Hénault said parents don't need to be worried.

"That's why we give classes," she said. "There is a risk to any kind of swimming, but we train people."

Lifeguards and experienced instructors supervise all classes, which are open to both mermaids and mermen.

The lessons will be run out of the University of Ottawa pool. A one-hour trial class costs $60, including tail rental. The fitness package includes 10 weekly sessions and costs $300.

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5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW DRIVING RULES

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

1 Drugs and driving

Expected this time next year are new penalties that will make the consequences of drug-impaired driving the same as alcohol-impaired driving..

2 Cyclist etiquette

The new rules tell drivers to be more aware of cyclists, ramping up fines to $365 for "dooring" (opening a door suddenly without looking for oncoming traffic) and not leaving one metre of space when passing cyclists. The new rules are a two way-street: There are also increased fines for cyclists who don't use bike lights and reflectors from $20 to $110.

3 Distracted driving

The fines for distracted driving have gone up and now include serious demerit point hits. The fine is $490 and three demerit points as well as a minimum 30-day suspension for novice drivers.

4 Safety for tow trucks

In Ontario, drivers need to slow down and move over to give space to emergency vehicles stopped on the side of the road. That rule will now be extended to tow truck drivers. The fine for not obeying is $490.

5 Pedestrian crossings

Effective Jan. 1, 2016, drivers will need to pay special attention at pedestrian crossovers and school crossings, which are specially marked walking areas, often in the middle of the street, not at intersections. The new rules mean cars must wait until a pedestrian has fully crossed before proceeding.

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FLAP

PENALTIES

Stiffer distracted driving fines to take effect in September

New road rules in Ontario will begin Tuesday including stiffer fines for distracted driving and rules to help protect cyclists, students and tow truck drivers.

The provincial government says penalties for distracted driving will include an increased set fine of $490 and three demerit points upon conviction.

Drivers without a full licence will receive a 30-day suspension for the first conviction for distracted driving.

The Ministry of Transportation says fatalities from distracted driving are projected to eclipse those from drinking and driving by 2016 and a driver who uses a cellphone is four times more likely to be in a crash.

People who "door" a cyclist — opening a car door that a cyclist crashes into — will carry an increased set fine of $365 and three demerit points upon conviction and drivers must now give cyclists a one-metre berth when passing them.

Drivers also face stiffer fines when passing too closely to stopped tow trucks and school buses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Pick PM who cares: NDP

ELECTION 2015

Mulcair unveils $40M plan to curb violence against women

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair unveiled $40 million in new measures Monday aimed at curbing violence against women as he promised to undo what he called an "underlying attitude of racism" that he says has prevented a national inquiry into violence against aboriginal women.

Mulcair made his pitch in Saskatchewan, a province with one of the highest rates of violence against women, where he said he would repair the federal government's relationship with indigenous women.

"Now, I say this to every mother, to every daughter, to every sister, that it's time you had a prime minister who cares," Mulcair said in Saskatoon.

Mulcair committed to restore a shelter-enhancement program scrapped by the Conservative government, saying it would have sufficient funding to ensure no woman in need is turned away from a shelter.

"In April 2014, on just one night, 338 women and 201 children fleeing violence were turned away from shelters because there weren't enough spaces," he said.

"That's unacceptable in a country like Canada."

He also vowed to work with women's groups, indigenous peoples, communities and organizations to create a national action plan to end violence against women and girls, with dedicated funding and benchmarks for progress.

That's on top of Mulcair's previous commitment to call an inquiry into the nearly 1,200 aboriginal women who have vanished or been murdered since 1980. He said he would launch the inquiry within his first 100 days in office.

"If there still hasn't been an inquiry today, to this date, on murdered and missing indigenous women in Canada, it's because of an underlying attitude of racism," he later added. "We're going to change that attitude."

Campaigning in Ottawa, Conservative Leader Stephen Harper said his government has implemented a series of initiatives to improve safety for aboriginal women, including giving police more investigative tools and providing more money for prevention services.

"We also brought in a series of criminal justice reforms to make sure there are serious penalties for those who commit violence against women, obviously commit violence more generally," Harper said.

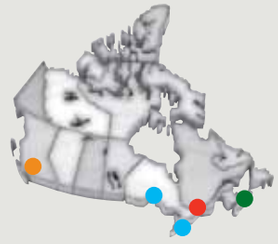
"Also, we're making use of the existing 40 studies to figure out what additional action we should take."

A report in January from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, an arm of the Organization of American States, said aboriginal women in Canada are murdered or disappear at a rate four times higher than their representation in the population.

THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tom Mulcair, left, watches First Nations drummers in Saskatoon, Sask., Monday. JOSH SCHAEFER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE TUESDAY



- **Stephen Harper** will be in Burlington and Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Gatineau and Laval, Que.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Kelowna, Vernon and Kamloops, B.C.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Halifax and Charlottetown.

EGYPT

Pardon sought for Fahmy

Ottawa has formally asked Egypt's president to pardon imprisoned journalist Mohamed Fahmy or allow his deportation to Canada, his wife said Monday as she implored Prime Minister Stephen Harper to secure her husband's release.

The development comes after an Egyptian court sentenced Fahmy to three years in prison on Saturday.

"Nobody understands how this happened," his wife Marwa Omara told The Canadian Press from Cairo.

It's the second time Fahmy has landed behind bars in the same case. He was originally arrested in December 2013 with two colleagues while working for satellite news broadcaster Al Jazeera English and faced terror charges.

Omara said while the applications for Fahmy's pardon or deportation have been filed by the Canadian Embassy with Egyptian officials, sustained pressure from Ottawa is needed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Idol worship critic shot dead in India

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Attack is third on crusaders against superstition

Following a knock at his front door, an Indian scholar greeted two unidentified visitors and was shot in the head and the chest, becoming the third critic of religious superstition to be killed in the country in three years.

The attack on Malleshappa M. Kalburgi sent a chill through Indian civil society, stoking worries about religious extremism and intolerance and prompting an outpouring of condemnation, as the 77-year-old author and academic was cremated Monday in his hometown of Dharwad, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka.

Authorities are searching for two men who according to Kalburgi's daughter arrived on a motorcycle at their home Sunday, knocked on the door and fired two shots that killed her father, Inspector S.S. Hiremath said.

> **Everyone has the right to express his opinion.**
> Actor and director Girish Karnad

Police are investigating whether Kalburgi's murder is connected to death threats he received last year from angry right-wing Hindu groups after he criticized idol worship and superstitious beliefs by Hindus. He was provided police security after the threats but it was removed about two weeks ago at the scholar's request, police said.

The attack was widely condemned.

"Everyone has the right to express his opinion," actor and director Girish Karnad said. "If this grows in Karnataka, we are in trouble."

Columnist Nitin Pai, who founded a think-tank in the southern city of Bangalore, said on Twitter that he was "Shocked at the murder of M.M. Kalburgi. Disgusted that his killers have apologists among us."

India has long held secularism to be a keystone of its constitution — and a necessity for keeping the peace among its cacophony of cultures defined by caste, clan, tribe or religion, including Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Sikhism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Earlier this year, unknown attackers gunned down another anti-superstition crusader, Indian writer and communist politician Govind Pansare, as he and his wife were taking a walk in western Maharashtra state.

In another daytime attack in 2013, two assailants gunned down Narendra Dabholkar, a 68-year-old doctor-turned-activist, while he was out for a walk in the Maharashtra city of Pune, near Mumbai.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STORMWATCH

SATELLITE SPOTS THREE HURRICANES

NASA's Terra satellite saw Hurricanes Kilo, left, Ignacio, centre, and Jimena, right, all category-four hurricanes, lined up across the Central and Eastern Pacific Ocean on Saturday. This is the first time there have been three active hurricanes in the area this season.

COURTESY NASA GODDARD MODIS RAPID RESPONSE

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Losing your job can be a traumatic event. As an employment lawyer, I speak every day with people who lost their job unexpectedly. They are worried, they are upset and angry. It is in this state of mind that they have to make a decision about a severance package. The former employer would have presented a severance offer and ask the employee to accept it. Too many individuals accept a severance offer that provides for much less than what they are owed. In fact, in my experience, over 90% of people accept severance packages that are completely inappropriate.

YOU ARE OWED SEVERANCE

So how do you know what you are owed if you lose your job? First, it is important to understand that every employee is entitled to severance, regardless of the length of employment and regardless of the size of the company. Severance is often also referred to as "termination pay" or "pay in lieu of notice". Many people believe that you have to work for a company for 5 years or work for a large company to get severance. That is completely wrong. If you lost your job, you are owed compensation (unless you did something that is so bad, that it allows your employer to let you go without severance).

CALCULATING SEVERANCE

As long as an employer pays severance, it can usually let an employee go at any time and for any reason. The only exception is that an employer is not allowed to let an employee go for discriminatory reasons. The amount of severance that an employee is owed depends on a number of factors. The main factors are the length of employment, the person's age and the type of job held. Generally, the longer you work, the older you are and the more senior a position you have, the more severance is owed to you. There is no rule of 1 week of severance or 2 weeks of severance for every year of service. That is absolutely false. In fact, it is common for people with short service to get disproportionately more severance than employees with long service. For example, an employee who is 45 years old, who worked as a supervisor for 2 years, may easily be owed as much as 6 months' severance. Severance must include all components of compensation, including salary, bonus, benefits, car allowance, pension etc. In many cases an employer would only pay salary and not include that other components of compensation. That is wrong. I created the Severance Calculator (www.SeverancePayCalculator.com) which allows anyone to determine approximately how much severance they would be owed if they lose their job. It is free, anonymous and extremely simple to use. I encourage everyone who lost their job or is worried about losing their job to visit the site.

INADEQUATE SEVERANCE

Almost every day, I speak with individuals who lost their jobs and whose severance offer provides for a small fraction of what they are actually owed. In most cases, it is quite simple to get the severance that you are owed. These matters usually resolve quickly and without legal action, as long as you have a lawyer on your side who knows what he/she is doing. Do not be worried about deadlines in your severance offer. Your legal rights will not expire Friday at 5pm. If you lost your job, take your severance offer home and read it carefully. Visit SeverancePayCalculator.com and give me a call. Do not leave on the table thousands of dollars that you are legally owed. Losing your job can be traumatic. However, understanding your rights will help you get what you are owed and allow you to move forward in a positive way.

Lior Samfiru is an employment lawyer and senior partner at Samfiru Tumarkin LLP. He is the host of the 'Employment Hour' heard Saturdays at 4:00PM on AM580 (CFRA).

Calculate the severance you are owed at www.severancepaycalculator.com

ALASKA

Obama's Arctic Circle tour marks a first

Shrinking glaciers, Arctic temperatures and a mix of messy energy politics await President Barack Obama on his trip to Alaska, where he will become the first sitting president to step foot in the Arctic Circle.

Obama departed Monday for a three-day tour of the largest U.S. state, aiming to call attention to the ways he says climate change is already damaging Alaska's stunning scenery. By showcasing thawing permafrost, melting sea ice and eroding shorelines, Obama hopes to raise a sense of urgency to slow climate change.

Even before he departed, Obama was making waves with a decision to rename Alaska's famed Mount McKinley despite backlash. The gesture was a major show of solidarity with the Alaska Arctic's native people. His administration is changing the name of North America's tallest peak to Denali, its traditional Athabascan name.

Obama's move to strip the mountain of its name honouring the former president drew loud condemnations from lawmakers in his native Ohio.

Yet Obama was to navigate far more turbulent waters in Anchorage, where his declarations on climate change have been met with skepticism by leaders in a state that's heavily dependent on oil revenue, which has fallen precipitously.

At the same time, environmental groups warned he hadn't done enough to protect Alaska and the climate. They took particular offence at his administration's move a few weeks ago to give Royal Dutch Shell a final permit for expanded drilling off Alaska's northwest coast.

"I share people's concerns about offshore drilling," Obama said, but added the economy still relied on oil and gas while it transitions to cleaner renewable fuels. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

*New bookings only. Book by 11:59 pm Eastern Time September 7, 2015. Travel by December 15, 2015. Up to 21-day advance purchase may be required. Prices are based on one-way fares. Discount is not applicable on itineraries that include a partner airline flight segment. Discount applies only to the regular base fare and does not apply to fees, taxes or surcharges. Full fare breakdown available for all itineraries on flyporter.com. Fares include all applicable government-imposed taxes and mandatory fees, which may amount to as much as $150 one-way per passenger, depending on routing. Foreign taxes will fluctuate based on the prevailing exchange rate. Fees for optional services, such as itinerary changes, additional baggage, advance seat selection, or certain special service requests, may increase overall cost. Fares are non-refundable but itineraries may be changed for a fee of up to $200 per person per direction, plus any fare differential. Other significant conditions (including a $35 first-checked bag and $45 second-checked bag fee, and charges for overweight and/or excess baggage) may change without notice and are not guaranteed until ticketed. Visit flyporter.com for more information. In case of any discrepancy between advertised fares and the fares shown on the website at the time of booking, the latter shall prevail.

A red-footed booby perches amid garbage on Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean. BRITTA DENISE HARDESTY/COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seabirds have plastic in their guts

RESEARCH

Study shows nine in 10 are swallowing harmful debris

As many as nine out of 10 seabirds worldwide likely have pieces of plastic in their guts, a new study estimates.

Previously, scientists figured about 29 per cent of seabirds had swallowed plastic, based on older studies. An Australian team of scientists which has studied birds and marine debris for decades used computer models to update those figures, calculating that far more seabirds are affected, according to a new study published Monday in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Study co-author Denise Hardesty, senior research scientist at the Australian federal science agency, said the problem with plastics in the ocean is increasing as the world makes more of the stuff. "In the next 11 years we will make as much plastic as has been made since industrial plastic production began in the 1950s."

Hardesty's work found that the biggest problem strangely isn't where there's the most garbage, such as the infamous garbage patch in the central north Pacific Ocean. Instead it's where the greatest number of different species exists, especially in the southern hemisphere near Australia and New Zealand.

Areas around North America and Europe are better off, she said. By reducing production of plastic pellets, she said, Europe is even seeing fewer of those plastic bits in one key bird, the northern fulmar. Some species of albatross and shearwaters seem to be the most prone to eating plastic pieces.

Birds mistake plastic bits for fish eggs, so "they think they're getting a proper meal but they're really getting a plastic meal," Hardesty said.

Usually it's incredibly tiny pieces of plastic, but Hardesty has seen far bigger things, such as an entire glow stick and three balloons in a single short-tailed shearwater bird.

> **It's pretty astronomical.**
> Denise Hardesty

"I have seen everything from cigarette lighters ... to bottle caps to model cars. I've found toys," Hardesty said.

And it's only likely to get worse. By 2050, 99 per cent of seabirds will have plastic in them, Hardesty's computer model forecast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google ups wearables fight

TECHNOLOGY

Android smartwatches now connect to iPhones

Google is introducing an application that will connect Android smartwatches with Apple's iPhone, escalating the rivals' battle to strap their technology on people's wrists.

The move thrusts Google on to Apple's turf in an attempt to boost the lacklustre sales of watches running on its Android Wear software. The program uniting the devices running on different operating systems is being released Monday in Apple's app store.

Until now, Android watches worked only with smartphones powered by Android software, just as the Apple Watch is designed to be tethered exclusively to the iPhone.

Google's new app, though, will enable the latest Android watches to link with the iPhone so people can quickly glance at their wrists for directions, fitness information and notifications about events, emails and Facebook updates.

Google displays a Wear device that can link up with products from its top rival. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The devices still won't be able to be tied together in a way that will allow the Android watches to communicate with all the other apps that a user might have installed on the iPhone.

> **This is a shrewd move by Google to expand its potential market.**
> IDC analyst Ramon Llamas

That roadblock is likely to discourage many iPhone owners from defecting from Apple to buy an Android watch unless Google eventually finds a way to overcome the obstacle, said IDC analyst Ramon Llamas.

For now, the Android watches are most likely to appeal to iPhone owners reluctant to spend a lot of money on a device that remains more of a novelty than an essential gadget.

Google expects the prices of Android watches compatible with the iPhone to range from $100 US to $400 US. Apple, which has a long history of demanding premium prices for its products, sells most of its watches for $350 US to $1,000 US, though its luxury models cost more than $10,000 US.

Android watches aren't going to be bought by "the fan boys and fan girls that have to have absolutely everything with an Apple logo on it," Llamas said. "We are talking about going after people who are open to other possibilities with what they can do with their devices."

The upcoming Android watches that will work with the iPhone include the Asus ZenWatch 2 and the Huawei Watch. LG Electronics already makes an Android Watch, the $300 US Urbane, that's compatible with the iPhone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Jeep recalling Cherokee SUVs to fix wipers

Fiat Chrysler is recalling 206,668 Jeep Cherokee SUVs — including 18,366 in Canada —because the windshield wipers can stop working unexpectedly. Cherokees from the 2014 model year are affected. Fiat Chrysler says static buildup, which may occur if the wipers are used when it's dry, can affect the module that powers the wipers and potentially disable them. Customers will be notified and dealers will repair the vehicles for free.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NATURAL GAS: $2.689 US (-2.6¢)
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ECONOMY

Alberta facing $5.9B deficit

Alberta's finance minister says the province is on track for a record $5.9-billion deficit this year as the oil crunch hits families and businesses.

And Joe Ceci says the worst may not be over if low oil prices persist and the province continues in recession.

"If current conditions continue, the final deficit will be in the range of $6.5 billion," Ceci said Monday as he released first-quarter figures for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Ceci said the NDP government will continue to look for efficiencies, but will not engage in large-scale layoffs or deep cuts to erase the red ink.

Opposition Wildrose finance critic Derek Fildebrandt calculated the hit to Alberta's treasury is actually $9 billion, when $3 billion drained from the contingency fund and new borrowing for capital projects are added in.

"This is the largest hit that our province has taken to its net wealth in the history of the province," said Fildebrandt.

Monday's numbers are based on the budget introduced, but never passed, by former Progressive Conservative premier Jim Prentice's government before it was defeated by Rachel Notley and the NDP in May. That budget estimated a $5-billion deficit.

The new estimates reflect changes made by the NDP, including higher corporate and personal taxes, and more than a billion dollars in new spending.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, September 1, 2015

metro's election explainer

Why is infrastructure an election issue?

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau set tongues wagging when he announced his party's plans to run three years of "modest" deficits to fund a $125-billion infrastructure-spending spree. He says that will work out to a $10-billion shortfall each year, with a return to a balanced budget in 2019-2020.

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper instantly threw Trudeau's famous line from last year ("The budget will balance itself") back in the Liberal Leader's face. NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair reiterated his party's commitment to a balanced budget, which Trudeau claims will require spending cuts no matter which way the books are sliced and diced. But what would an infrastructure infusion really mean for Canada? Here are answers to a few common questions.

What exactly is infrastructure, anyways?

That's a matter of debate. Most people think of infrastructure as public works: roads, bridges, transit — things that improve economic productivity. But the Liberal plan also includes "social infrastructure," such as seniors' centres and housing projects.

How badly do we need an infrastructure boost?

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities says cities and towns around the country are facing a $123-billion gap between their infrastructure needs and their available funds.

Either the difference will have to be made up by other levels of government, or communities will need to do without.

Does infrastructure really help perk up the economy?

Trudeau says his plan is designed to "create growth," and according to the FCM, each dollar invested in public works generates an extra $1.20 in yearly GDP growth. That's why infrastructure development is often part of stimulus projects designed to help the economy bounce back from a downturn — usually worse than the slump we're in. The efficacy of this is hotly debated. Examples include the The New Deal in the 1930s U.S., and the Harper government's post-2008 Economic Action Plan, which at just $63 billion, is dwarfed by the Liberals' proposal.

What are other parties promising?

NDP: $1.5 billion per year in infrastructure, plus $1.3 billion for transit. Tories: An $80-billion, 10-year plan: $5.3 billion per year, plus $250 million for transit (to increase to $1 billion by 2019), $150 million in projects marking Canada's 150th birthday.

The election explainer is dedicated to keeping urban Canadians informed ahead of the Oct. 19 vote. Look for it in this space throughout the campaign. Let us know what needs explaining: readers@metronews.ca

What a bus pass could do for the working poor

YOUR RIDE
Kathryn Hunt

For some people, the cost of travelling to work can be a very real burden. Approximately 60,000 people using OC Transpo are living below the low income cut-off mark, and a necessary bus pass — at $103.25 a month — can be a major expense for them.

So why doesn't Ottawa have a discounted pass for low-income workers? A pass for people who need the bus to get around town, but who struggle to pay for it, sometimes having to cut into their budget for other things, such as food, clothing or rent.

Tina Ford is a housing outreach case manager and one of those 60,000 riders struggling to make ends meet on a low income. As part of her job, she takes the bus all over the city to meet with clients and help them get to social-service, doctor and court appointments.

She told me that almost every month she has to borrow money from a payday lender just to buy her pass. One bi-weekly paycheque just covers her rent, she says. The other goes into the bills, leaving her with barely enough for food and her bus pass. Extras are out. "I'd love to join a gym," she says, "but that's $50 I don't have. I need a new pair of boots for winter and I've got to save up for them over a few months."

OC Transpo does have a community pass available to people with mental and physical disabilities, at $41.75 a month. It used to be available to people with low incomes as well, but a few years ago that option vanished. Currently, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) — of which Ford is a member — is putting together a petition to get the low-income pass reinstated.

Why doesn't Ottawa have a discounted pass for low-income workers — people who need the bus, but who struggle to pay for it, sometimes having to cut into their budgets for food, clothing or rent?

While some city councillors have said that they want to bring back an income-based community pass, it hasn't happened yet. That may be because the transit system doesn't pay for itself. Even regular fares are subsidized by the city. And it seems the default means of meeting a shortfall is to raise fares.

But there are other places the city could look in its budget to cover a transit pass for the working poor. It wouldn't be a huge amount of money for the city, and it would make a real difference to people like Tina Ford.

Kathryn Hunt @k8thek8 is a writer, editor of Centretown BUZZ, storyteller, poet, cycling blogger, rock climber, mysterious techno vixen (confirmed) and geek. Not necessarily in that order. You can read her cycling blog at theincidentalcyclist.blogspot.ca.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

How a champion changed my views on beauty pageants

If you'd asked me last week, I'd have said beauty pageants are where feminism goes to die.

Pageants are prime-time, high-gloss prostitution. They're hokey and, worse, gaudy messes. They feature a criminal lack of taste for such a multi-outfit affair. And despite the swimsuit/spray-tan section, they manage to kill sex appeal, any actual sensuality being buried under excessive makeup and plastic smiles.

They're only informative insofar as they reinforce the cliché of the dumb blonde (see Miss Teen South Carolina of "such as the Iraq" fame). Some — like Miss America — hawk themselves as key scholarship programs, but thanks to John Oliver, we know that's a load of sparkly crap, too.

Interesting women can be found anywhere but on that stage. With the exception of Ashley Burnham.

The 25-year-old from Enoch Cree Nation in Alberta won Mrs. Universe last weekend — billed as the beauty pageant for the charitable and human-rights inclined, and the already married.

Burnham — an actor, model and activist — resonated with the pageant's theme of ending domestic violence and protecting children. It's a cause intimately tied to her own childhood, which she has said was an ongoing terror of physical and sexual abuse.

Burnham (née Callingbull) is using her platform to speak for survivors of abuse and promote Cree culture. She displays little fear or modesty. "I'm breaking barriers," she said. Damn right.

She's the first aboriginal woman to win this crown. She might be the first aboriginal beauty queen you've heard of. She brought the artistry of a round dance song and a traditional jingle dress to the contest. There would be, she said, no "Pocahottie."

Of course, Burnham is stunning, with angled, almond eyes, full lips and long dark hair. She reportedly lost 45 pounds for the pageant, and in swimsuit photos she's sculpted and strong. For her coronation, she wore a plunging-V-neck, seafoam-green gown — and it was fabulous.

I'd love Burnham to find an audience without competing for a panel of judges. But I strain to imagine how else she might trend higher on Instagram than Kanye West's 2020 presidential bid. And while indigenous Canada already knew her, she's meeting the rest of us because she's a newly crowned beauty queen.

Mostly, I have little more than disdain for the women who subject themselves to the female equivalent of a dog show.

But I respect Burnham. She makes a poor source for pageant blooper reels, and a champion hard to ignore.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

Sexuality and social status

RESEARCH

Richer women less likely to act on same-sex attraction, study claims

It's been suggested in the past that women may be more likely to be bisexual than men, and a new study reveals that social status might play a role in whether or not a woman will veer from heterosexual dating.

Being physically attractive and highly educated makes women more likely to identify themselves as being 100 per cent heterosexual, according to the study.

"Women who are initially successful in partnering with men, as is more traditionally expected, may never explore their attraction to other women," says study author Elizabeth Aura McClintock of the University of Notre Dame in the U.S.

"However, women with the same sexual attractions, but less favourable heterosexual options might have greater opportunity to experiment with same-sex partners."

She adds that women who act on their homosexual desires are more likely to identify themselves as someone who swings both ways.

Working with data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health), McClintock traced the love lives of 5,018 women and 4,191 men.

She limited her sample to the first, third and fourth waves of the report, which were defined by the period of time in which they were collected: The first taken from 1994-1995, the third from 2001-2002 and fourth from 2007-2008.

Participants in the first wave averaged 16 years of age, 22 in the third and 28 in the fourth and nobody was asked to identify their sexuality until the third wave.

First, she confirmed existing research that indicates women are more likely than men to describe themselves as bisexual, whereas men tend to choose one side or another.

Changing one's sexual identity over time was three times more likely for women than for men, according to the study.

Physically attractive, highly educated women were more likely than others in the third and fourth waves to report being 100 per cent heterosexual, yet those who had had a child by the third were less likely to describe themselves as such.

This was in line with McClintock's hypothesis that avoiding young motherhood was another aspect of how social status facilitates a hetero-conformist identity.

Women who were not mothers at a young age likely had more ease of honing successful romances, she says.

"Women with some degree of attraction to both males and females might be drawn into heterosexuality if they have favourable options in the heterosexual partner market," says McClintock.

The study, which has implications for sexual identity as a social construct, was presented at the 110th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association last month in Chicago.

A 2013 study published in the journal Evolutionary Psychology concluded that women are more likely than men to be bisexual. AFP

FOR MEN

- Higher education levels meant the likelihood of men identifying themselves as 100 per cent heterosexual was lower, according to the study, and physical beauty could not be linked with men's sexual identity.
- Changing one's sexual identity over time was three times more likely for women than for men, the study from the University of Notre Dame found.

In a study that has implications for sexual identity as a social construct, the study author found that "women who are initially successful in partnering with men, as is more traditionally expected, may never explore their attraction to other women." ISTOCK

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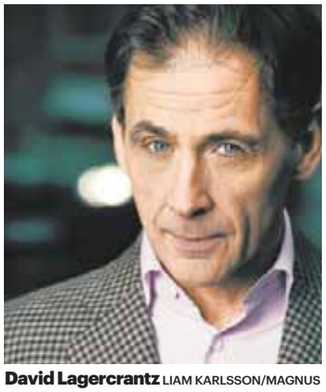
THIS WEEK: Oral Piercings and Their Effects on Your Oral Health

BOOK EXCERPT THE GIRL IN THE SPIDER'S WEB BY DAVID LAGERCRANTZ

'She was on the hunt'



David Lagercrantz LIAM KARLSSON/MAGNUS

Troubled genius hacker Lisbeth Salander and crusading journalist Mikael Blomkvist are back. The two characters are at the heart of Stieg Larsson's Millennium Series — The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo, The Girl Who Played With Fire and The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets' Nest. When Larrson died suddenly in 2004, fans thought that would be the end of the blockbuster books.

But his publisher hired Swedish writer David Lagercrantz to continue the series. Now, Salander and Blomkvist feature in The Girl in the Spider's Web (Penguin Random House, Sept. 1, $34). See how Lagercrantz has continued the series in this excerpt from the new novel. The first two lines are text on a computer IM.

EXCERPTED FROM THE GIRL IN THE SPIDER'S WEB BY DAVID LAGERCRANTZ AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD. COPYRIGHT © 2015 DAVID LAGERCRANTZ. PUBLISHED BY VIKING CANADA, A DIVISION OF PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE CANADA LIMITED. REPRODUCED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PUBLISHER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

<Tell me! How does it feel?>
<Empty>, came the answer.
Empty.

That was how it felt. Salander had hardly slept for a week and she had probably also had too little to drink and eat, and now her head ached and her eyes were bloodshot and her hands shook and what she wanted above all was to sweep all of her equipment to the floor. In one sense she was content, though hardly for the reason Plague or anyone else in Hacker Republic would have guessed. She was content because she had been able to get some new information on the criminal group she was mapping out; she had found evidence of a connection which she had previously only suspected. But she kept that to herself, and she was surprised that the others could have imagined that she would have hacked the system for the hell of it.

She was no hormone-fuelled teenager, no idiot show-off looking for a kick. She would only embark on such a bold venture because she was after something very specific, although it was true that once upon a time hacking had been more than just a tool for her. During the worst moments of her childhood it had been her way of escaping, a way to make life feel a little less boxed in. With the help of computers she could break through barriers which had been put in her way and experience periods of freedom. There was probably an element of that in the current situation too.

First and foremost she was on the hunt and had been ever since she woke up in the early light of dawn with her dream of that fist beating rhythmically, relentlessly on a mattress on Lundagatan. Her enemies were hiding behind smoke screens and this could be the reason why Salander had been unusually difficult and awkward of late. It was as if a new darkness emanated from her. Apart from a large, loudmouthed boxing coach called Obinze and two or three lovers of both sexes, she saw hardly anyone. More than ever she looked like trouble; her hair was straggly, her eyes threatening, and even though she sometimes made an effort she had not become more fluent at small talk. She spoke the truth or said nothing at all. As for her apartment here on Fiskargatan . . . that was a story in itself. It was big enough for a family with seven children, although in the years since she had acquired the place nothing had been done to decorate it or make it homey. There were only a few pieces of Ikea furniture, placed seemingly at random, and she did not even have a stereo system, perhaps because she did not understand music. She saw more melody in a differential equation than in a piece by Beethoven. Yet she was as rich as Croesus. The money she had stolen from that crook Hans-Erik Wennerström had grown to a little more than five billion kronor, so she could afford whatever she wanted. But in some way — which was typical of her — her fortune had not made any mark on her personality, unless perhaps it had made her yet more fearless. She had certainly done some increasingly drastic things of late.

Our favourite heroine Lisbeth Salander, played here by Noomi Rapace, returns in her latest incarnation as The Girl in the Spider's Web. KNUT KOIVISTO

PICKING UP LARSSON'S MANTLE

Author of new Millennium book haunted by spectre of Salander

When author and journalist Stieg Larsson died of a heart attack in 2004, his fantasies of literary success were fated to go unrealized in his lifetime. Larsson had recently found a publisher for his Millennium trilogy of crime novels, which followed the exploits of a deeply disturbed but brilliant and morally upright hacker named Lisbeth Salander. He hoped to earn enough from their publication to take up fiction full time.

The 2005 publication of Men Who Hate Women (retitled The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo for the English translation), the first of Larsson's trilogy, changed the course of crime fiction. The trilogy went on to sell over 80 million copies and spawned four movie adaptations, surpassing Larsson's modest dreams of full-time authorhood hundreds of times over.

LIAM KARLSSON/MAGNUS

A decade after the publication of The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Larsson's publisher has pulled off the unlikely feat of releasing a new Lisbeth Salander novel, The Girl in the Spider's Web.

The novel was commissioned and written under a veil of secrecy and intrigue the series' creator would no doubt have found amusing.

David Lagercrantz, a novelist, biographer and former crime reporter, was chosen by Larsson's publisher and literary estate to continue the Millennium series.

Known outside of Sweden for ghostwriting the bestselling autobiography of soccer icon Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Lagercrantz was shocked when Larsson's publisher approached him.

"I didn't believe them at first," Lagercrantz says, speaking from his home in Stockholm. "But my agent, the publisher and the estate saw certain patterns in my writing and thought I would be perfect. I've always been interested in geniuses like Salander who society has treated badly and who have fought back."

Lagercrantz wasn't sure if he was up to the task of getting inside the mind of Salander, a heroine whose off-the-charts IQ, computer savvy and lust for righteous, retributive violence have made her a pop-culture icon. "I was terrified that people would say to me that I couldn't live up to the original books," he admits.

"But the terror made me a better writer."

Still, the spectre of Salander haunted him. "I had so much trouble with her because I put too much emotion into the character," he explains.

"It didn't suit her — you had to feel her anger between the lines."

Inspiration came from an unlikely source: rewatching Christopher Nolan's Batman trilogy.

"I realized that what's fascinating about Salander is that, like any superhero, she has this great mythology. She grew up with a mother being raped and abused by an evil father, who is protected by the security forces, and she learns that she has to take revenge herself."

The result is a thoroughly modern, unapologetically angry heroine.

"There are certain characters that we have to go back to so that we can understand them. We will go back to Lisbeth Salander for ages," says Lagercrantz.

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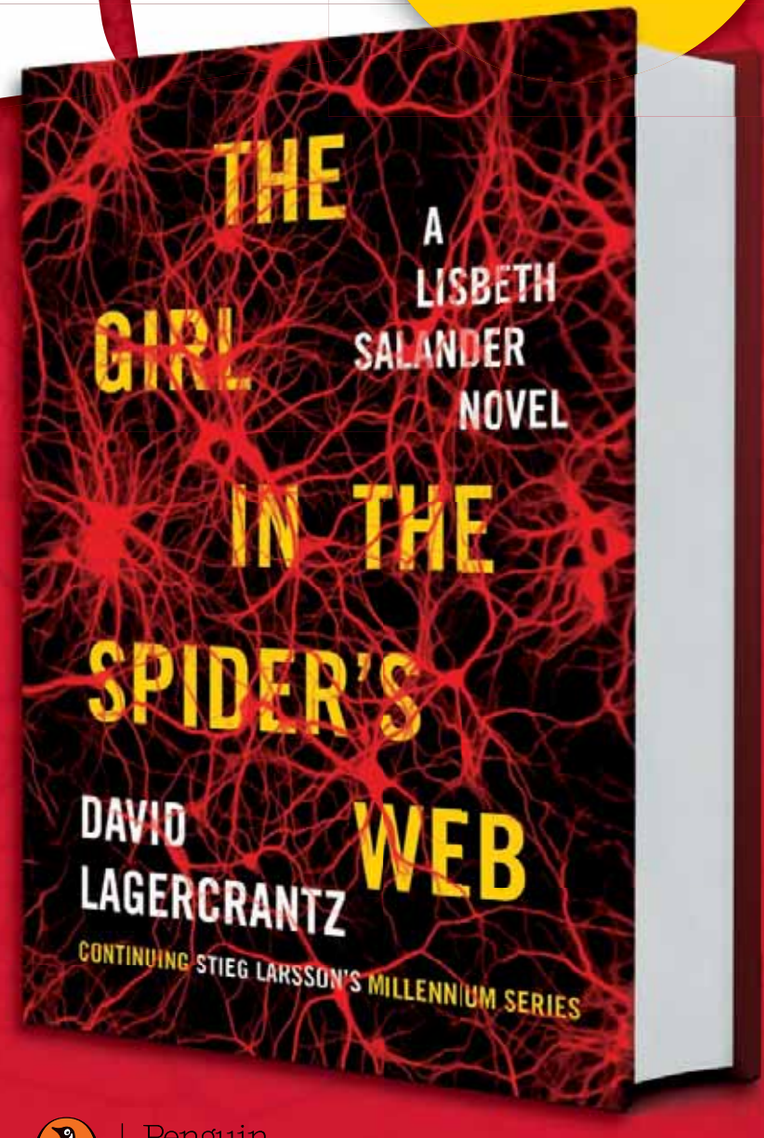

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Does creativity love misery?

NEUROTICISM

Being sensitive lights up imagination, authors posit

Eva Kis
Metro in New York

A woman looks at a photo of late singer Kurt Cobain, posing with a handgun. Researchers at King's College London say that "although being highly neurotic is by definition unpleasant, it also has creative benefits." BERTRAND GUAY/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Misery doesn't just love company, it also inspires much of the art you enjoy. That link could be even stronger than we thought.

What psychologists call "neurotic unhappiness" and creativity have long known to be linked, though instead of Kurt Cobain, researchers at King's College London singled out physicist Isaac Newton, who got caught up in his anxieties both about the natural world and his own childhood.

Their theory posits that the same part of the brain that's responsible for "self-generated thought" (read: jokes, lyrics, eureka moments) is highly active in neurotic people, whose brains turn possibilities into highlight reels of anxiety-fuelled nightmares. Creativity and misery are not just good friends — they're roommates.

The most commonly cited explanation for neuroticism is that these people are more sensitive to threat, according to the work of British psychologist Jeffrey Gray in the 1970s. He noticed that rodents taking anti-anxiety medication were less sensitive to punishment, while it helped relax his human patients, even making them more cheerful.

"Gray had a useful and logical theory, but the problem is that it doesn't account for the full spectrum of neuroticism — it's pretty difficult to explain neuroticism in terms of magnified threat perception because high scorers often feel unhappy in situations where there is no threat at all," says personality researcher Adam Perkins, who writes about the theory in the most recent issue of Cell.

"The second problem is, there's literature showing neuroticism scores are positively correlated with creativity; and so why should having a magnified view of threat objects make you good at coming up with new ideas?"

The aha moment for Perkins came while listening to a lecture on daydreaming by University of York psychologist Jonathan Smallwood. MRIs of neurotic patients showed greater activity in the prefrontal cortex when they had a negative thought — the same part of the brain that processes threat cues.

Overthinking can also explain the link to the positive aspects of being neurotic, which is often extraordinary creativity.

TEENS

Research says goths more depressed

Teenagers who identify as goths, a subculture known for its members' black clothes and makeup, have a three times higher risk of depression than non-goth peers, researchers said Friday.

But they could not be sure whether it was a case of depression leading kids to join this particular subgroup, or being caused by it.

"Our study does not show that being a goth causes depression or self-harm, but rather that some young goths are more vulnerable to developing these conditions," said the study's lead author Lucy Bowes from the University of Oxford. AFP

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Tyler Labine and Chace Crawford star in Canadian indie film Mountain Men, screening nationwide this week. CONTRIBUTED

Canadian indie moves moutains

MOUNTAIN MEN

Cast and crew chased snowcaps in Revelstoke B.C.

SHOW TIMES
PART OF THE CANADIAN INDIE FILM SERIES, MOUNTAIN MEN SCREENS ACROSS CANADA WEDNESDAY. IT OPENS IN THEATRES FRIDAY.

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

"I love Canada," says Mountain Men star Chace Crawford. "I'm from Texas so I get along with Canadians really well. There is some weird kindred spirit there."

Crawford is best known as the star of Gossip Girl — he played Upper East Side heartthrob Nate Archibald on over 100 episodes of the hit show — but he got his big break working in Canada.

"I worked in Montreal on my first film ever back in 2005," he says. "It was a Screen Gems movie called The Covenant, which was like The Craft meets the Backstreet Boys. I had the best time of my life on that. I love Montreal but I know Montreal is a lot different than Toronto or Vancouver and definitely Revelstoke."

Revelstoke is, indeed, a long hike from Montreal. The beautiful southeastern British Columbia community has provided a backdrop for films dating back to the 1930s — a 1937 Lilli Palmer about the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway was partially shot there — and gave Mountain Men its picturesque setting.

The film is the story of estranged brothers Cooper (Crawford) and Toph (Tyler Labine, real-life brother of the film's writer and director Cameron Labine). When Cooper returns home to attend their mother's wedding, Toph tricks him into taking a trip into the Rocky Mountains. When everything goes wrong they must bond or die.

The scenery is suitably rustic, but Crawford says the location wasn't as rough as it looks in the film.

"We really pulled it off," he says. "To be honest we got there in April and had this house up in the middle of nowhere. There was a couple feet of snow everywhere but by the end it was gorgeous springtime. The snow just slowly melted. We had to keep going higher and higher up the mountain to make it look more treacherous. It was nice out almost. It was more wet than anything."

When he wasn't shooting on the mountain he was getting to know his co-star.

"Tyler and me shared a big house," he says. "He has a family and a wife and kids and he's a great dad, but he got to be away from that for a moment and kind of lock in.... It was more a bonding experience and by the end of it we were brothers from another mother."

OBITUARY

Legendary horror director dies at 76

It's hard enough to redefine a genre once in a career, but horror virtuoso Wes Craven did it twice.

The prolific writer-director, who died Sunday at 76, ushered in two distinct eras of suburban slashers, first in the 1980s with his iconic Nightmare on Elm Street and its indelible, razor-fingered villain Freddy Krueger. He did it again in the 1990s with the self-referential Scream.

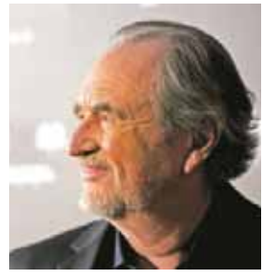
Both reintroduced the fringe genre to mainstream audiences and spawned successful franchises.

Wesley Earl "Wes" Craven was born in Cleveland on Aug. 2, 1939. He earned a master's degree in philosophy and writing from Johns Hopkins University and briefly taught as a college professor in Pennsylvania and New York, but his start in movies was in pornography, where he worked under pseudonyms.

He was active until his death. In a statement, Craven's family said he died in his Los Angeles home, surrounded by family, after battling brain cancer. He is survived by his wife, producer Iya Labunka, a son, daughter and stepdaughter.

In 2010, he told The Los Angeles Times: "My goal is to die in my 90s on the set, say, 'That's a wrap,' after the last shot, fall over dead and have the grips go out and raise a beer to me."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Wes Craven GETTY IMAGES

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metro SPORTS

The playoff-hopeful Cubs acquired Austin Jackson from the Mariners

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

IN BRIEF

Encarnacion named AL player of the week

At the end of his history-making August and in the midst of a major-league-best hitting streak, Edwin Encarnacion has been named the American League player of the week.

The Toronto Blue Jays slugger hit .391 with six home runs and 17 RBIs last week. He is hitting .409 with 11 home runs and 35 RBIs during a 25-game hitting streak.

His 35 RBIs in August are a franchise record for any month.

Chicago Cubs pitcher Jake Arrieta was named National League player of the week after no-hitting the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brady waves at, thanks courtroom artist

A courtroom artist who some Internet critics say made New England quarterback Tom Brady look like an aging cartoon villain has gotten a wave and a "thank you" from the superstar.

Jane Rosenberg returned to Manhattan federal court Monday several weeks after her drawing at Brady's first "Deflategate" hearing became a trending topic on Twitter, Facebook and other social networks.

Rosenberg says she's not reading too much into being acknowledged by the four-time Super Bowl champ, saying he might just be "a polite guy who waves to everybody."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fan-favourite running back released by Bills

Fred Jackson's tenure with the Buffalo Bills is over after the veteran running back, respected team leader and fan favourite was released on Monday.

At 34, Jackson was the NFL's oldest active running back. And he insisted he still had years left in his career.

With nine seasons in Buffalo, Jackson had been the second-longest serving active player behind only defensive tackle Kyle Williams.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opportunity with Jays too good to pass up: Shapiro

MLB

Franchise announces its next president and CEO

In 1992, Mark Shapiro and younger brother David packed a U-Haul and drove by the future site of Jacobs Field. During Shapiro's first week with the Cleveland Indians, the final building was demolished to make room for the new stadium as the team began a new era.

Soon, Shapiro will arrive in Toronto to start a new era at the helm of the Blue Jays. As the team's next president and CEO, Shapiro has plenty of challenges ahead of him, on the field and in the front office, the board room and Rogers Centre itself.

"This opportunity for me is the right challenge at the right time," Shapiro said at a news conference in Cleveland. "This is one that fits my skill set. It fits what provides fulfillment for me on a daily basis."

Shapiro will take over for the retiring Paul Beeston at the end of this season after working the past 24 years in various front-office capacities with the Indians, the past five as club president. The 48-year-old said the "compelling and unique" nature of the Blue Jays' position made it too attractive to pass up.

Mark Shapiro will replace Paul Beeston once this season is over. TONY DEJAK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shapiro will soon take over a franchise that's on the way to its first playoff appearance since 1993 and one that has plans to renovate Rogers Centre in the coming years. The stadium, which opened in 1989, is expected to have an all-grass field by 2018, and could get a facelift elsewhere.

He was part of renovations to Cleveland's stadium, now named Progressive Field, that made it a more fan-friendly ballpark.

"Mark is a seasoned baseball veteran, whose leadership, drive for excellence, and commitment to all aspects of the game is impressive," Blue Jays chairman Edward Rogers said in a statement. "We have confidence that he is the right person to lead the Toronto Blue Jays into the future and build upon the franchise's legacy."

On the baseball side, Shapiro's first order of business is a decision on the future of general manager Alex Anthopoulos, whose off-season and trade-deadline moves shaped Toronto into a contender. Anthopoulos traded for MVP candidate Josh Donaldson and signed catcher Russell Martin in the off-season, then acquired ace David Price, shortstop Troy Tulowitzki and others late last month, moves that helped the Blue Jays surge into first place in the American League East.

> **"I can guarantee you: whatever he wraps his arms around, he'll make it better.**
> Indians manager Terry Francona

Like Beeston's, Anthopoulos's contract is up Oct. 31. According to multiple reports, Shapiro is likely to retain the Montreal native, who could be an executive of the year candidate.

In an interview on the Fan 590 in Toronto, Beeston called Shapiro a "terrific choice." He said the top challenges facing the next president include updating Rogers Centre for the 21st century, handling the struggling Canadian dollar, continuing to field a competitive team and improving the Blue Jays' spring training facility.

THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. OPEN

2014 runner-up suffers early five-set disappointment

A year after his run all the way to his first Grand Slam final, Kei Nishikori's stay at the U.S. Open lasted only a few hours.

The fourth-seeded Nishikori had two match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker against 41st-ranked Benoit Paire, but the Frenchman saved both of them then took control in the fifth for a 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4 victory Monday.

It was the first win of his career against an opponent ranked in the top five.

"When I saw the draw against Kei, I said, 'Bad luck,"' Paire recalled.

Kei Nishikori GETTY IMAGES

But then he reminded himself he had been competitive in two previous losses to the Japanese star.

"It's not like if I play against Roger Federer," Paire said, explaining he knew he could get something going against Nishikori's serve. "Against Kei, I know I can play."

Nishikori had withdrawn from the hard-court warmup at Cincinnati, citing a hip injury, but he said Monday he was fine physically. Still, he looked sluggish late in the match, which lasted three hours and 14 minutes on a steamy day.

"He was very aggressive, so there was many rallies and it was tough to get rhythm," Nishikori said. "He hits a lot of drop shots and good serves."

Last year at Flushing Meadows, Nishikori became the first man from Asia to reach a major final, where he lost to Marin Cilic. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN CONTENT

Canadians Milos Raonic and Eugenie Bouchard advanced to the second round of the U.S. Open with wins over American opponents Monday.

Raonic moved on with a 6-4, 7-6 (8), 6-1 win over Tim Smyczek, and later, Bouchard beat Alison Riske for the fifth straight time, winning 6-4, 6-3.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Milos Raonic, the men's 10th seed KENA BETANCUR/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

RECIPE Brown Rice, Black Bean and Avocado Pilaf

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

This pilaf is great-tasting and visually beautiful. Rice and beans make a complete protein when combined.

Serves 4

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 cup brown rice
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 1/2 cups canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 1/2 cups sliced cherry tomatoes
- 1/2 cup diced ripe avocado
- 1/3 cup diced green onion
- pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 Tbsp freshly squeezed lime or lemon juice
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro or parsley

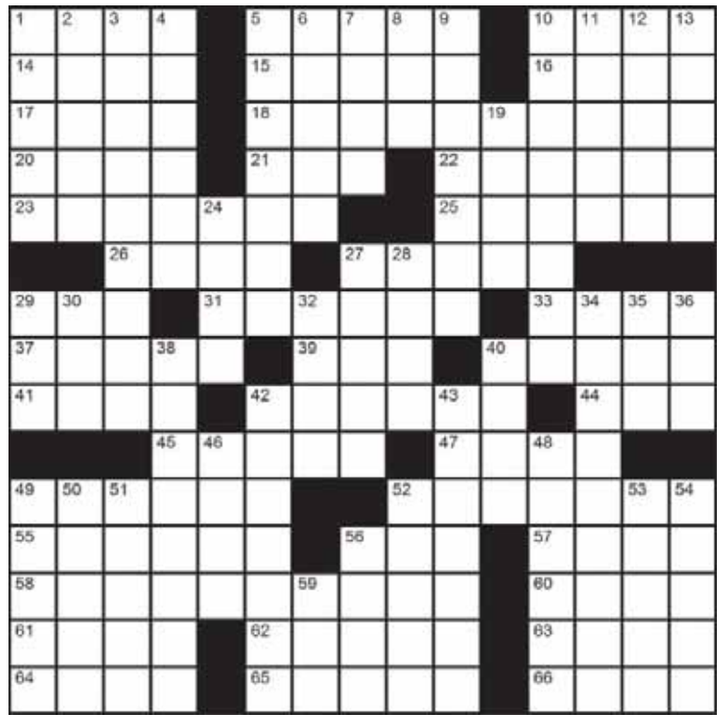
Directions
1. Combine the rice and stock in a medium saucepan, cover and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer for approximately 30 minutes, or until the rice is still slightly tender.
2. Cool for 10 minutes.
3. Combine the remaining ingredients in a bowl, mixing well. Stir into the rice mixture and serve immediately.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 325
- Protein 11 g
- Carbohydrates 53 g
- Fibre 6.7 g
- Total fat 8 g
- Saturated fat 1.1 g
- Cholesterol 0 mg
- Sodium 309 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Pacific Northwest salmon
5. Rendezvous
10. Fair
14. Luke Wilson's actor brother
15. Pantheon of Norse gods
16. Exclusively
17. Building wings
18. International fishing area in the North Atlantic near the 'Nose' of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland: 2 wds.
20. Type of food shop
21. Chemin de __ ('Railroad' in French)
22. __ Maid (Orange juice brand)
23. Analyzed
25. Like a sailboat
26. Temporarily gave
27. Extract metal from ore
29. Passenger plane pilot's prediction, puny-ly
31. One of Santa's crew
33. Herman Melville story of 1847
37. Gangly
39. Dancer's step
40. Scornfully grin
41. Time for lunch, in Montreal
42. Nova Scotia: Isle __ (Island off Cape Breton)
44. Miracle-__ (Gardening product)
45. U2 tune: "__ (In the Name of Love)"
47. "__ la Douce" (1963)
49. Descend the cliff via rope
52. Protective piece of sports equipment
55. Artificial
56. Father
57. Fast food service, with Drive-
58. Durability
60. Red __ (Wieners by Canadian brand Schneiders)
61. Trigonometry ratio
62. Specialized calling, as in business
63. Taking care of things: 2 wds.
64. Perfected
65. Crow
66. "Disco Duck" singer Rick

DOWN
1. Some students
2. Young Bird of Minerva
3. Land of Flat Stones: Baffin Island, to early Norse explorers
4. __ kick, as in football
5. Bridesmaid dress fabric
6. Took the helm again
7. River of Flanders
8. Actor Alastair
9. Hedge tool
10. David __, Governor General of Canada
11. Rough, as diamonds
12. Writing tablet
13. Used the keyboard to write
19. Earth crust's upper layer
24. Car race, with 500
27. Leafy tree's offering from the beating sun
28. Raised flatland
29. Furniture wood
30. __ Chi (Martial Art)
32. French fighter plane of WWI
34. Early movie director's speaking prop
35. Not 'neath
36. __-Medonte (Ontario township)
38. Like salted/smoked herring
40. Very dry
42. __ about (Aimlessly wandering)
43. Outlook
46. Interpret, __ into
48. Way
49. Tony La __ (Legendary baseball manager)
50. Caper
51. Dried plum
52. Buckwheat cereal served warm
53. Mr. Shaw (Famed clarinettist)
54. Does some housework
56. Art __ (Design style)
59. Zippo

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Your confidence is sky high and no matter what challenges come your way today you will deal with them with ease. Having said that, you don't have to do it all by yourself, you will have help if you ask for it.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Sometimes you're afraid to act in case you make a fool of yourself but today you will take the kind of risks you usually go out of your way to avoid. Your confidence will pay off.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Go take on the world today but be warned: with many planets moving retrograde the gains you make now could be lost later, so don't get carried away by your own brilliance.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Usually you prefer to steer clear of the limelight but today you love the attention. You rather enjoy it when people recognize you on the street. Be famous — not infamous.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You are determined to make something of your talents but don't use up all your energy making money or getting ahead at work. Friendships and love affairs are well starred today.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You want to impress people in power but don't make it seem as if you are looking to take over, even if you are. Ambition is admirable, but if others feel threatened they will hit back.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The good times just keep getting better. With your ruler Venus linked to action planet Mars today everything will work out for the best. You are free to do as you please without fear of the consequences.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will lose sight of reality and maybe get a bit emotional about things that do not matter. What you are worrying about is most likely an illusion, so snap out of it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Mars in your fellow Fire sign of Leo boosts your energy and helps you get things done. If you are making social or travel plans, make sure to consult loved ones.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
All the hard work you have put in lately will pay off this week. Just be careful that, in the warm glow of success, you don't agree to take on extra duties and responsibilities.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The planets suggest that you will come out ahead in most things but that does not mean you have to do everything. Choose your tasks carefully. What you don't do may be as important as what you do do.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You want to unburden your feelings. Don't worry that by baring your soul you might give others the impression that you are weak. On the contrary, it shows you possess inner strength.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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